In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended)   A method of accessing data via a legacy computer system, the method comprising:

identifying a plurality of legacy computer system screen fields of an application, each screen field of the plurality of screen fields associated with at least one unit of data;

determining for each screen field a screen field identifier and one or more screen field location identifiers;

prior to accessing a screen containing the screen fields, storing in a configuration file the screen field identifier and the one or more screen field location identifiers for each screen field of the plurality of screen fields, wherein the one or more screen location identifiers further include a screen number, wherein the screen field location identifiers comprise a field row, a field column, and a field length, wherein each screen has a name, and wherein storing in the configuration file comprises:

storing the screen name followed by an underscore character,

storing the screen field identifier following the underscore character and being followed by an equal sign character,

storing the screen number following the equal sign character and being followed by a first colon character,

storing the field row following the first colon and being followed by a second colon,

storing the field column following the second colon and being followed by a third colon, and

storing the field length following the third colon; and

obtaining the unit of data for one or more of the screen fields of the screen by finding the location of the screen fields for the screen from the screen field location identifiers of the stored configuration file.

2. (Original)   The method of claim 1, the method further comprising:

determining that a screen field location identifier for a relocated screen field has changed; determining an updated screen field location identifier for the relocated screen field; and

storing in the configuration file the updated screen field location identifier for the relocated screen field.

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3. (Currently Amended)   A method of accessing data via a legacy computer system, the method comprising:

prior to accessing a screen containing screen fields, accessing a screen field configuration file for a legacy computer system, the screen field configuration file storing screen field information comprising a screen name, a screen field identifier and screen field location identifiers comprising a screen number, a field row, a field column, and a field length, wherein the configuration file stores the screen field information in a format comprising:

the screen name followed by an underscore character,

the screen field identifier following the underscore character and being followed by an equal sign character,

the screen number following the equal sign character and being followed by a first colon character,

the field row following the first colon and being followed by a second colon,

the field column following the second colon and being followed by a third colon, and

the field length following the third colon;

identifying one or more screen fields, each identified screen field having a screen field identifier and one or more screen field location identifiers stored in the configuration file, wherein the one or more screen location identifiers include a screen number;

creating one or more screen field objects, each screen field object corresponding to an identified screen field; and

obtaining data of a screen by referencing the one or more screen field objects to find the screen fields corresponding to the data.

4. (Original)   The method of claim 3, wherein the screen field object includes screen field identifier information.

5-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended)   A system for accessing data via a legacy computer system, the system comprising:

a legacy computer system to display at least one unit of data in a screen field of a screen provided within a display of a terminal;

an application to access the at least one unit of data, the at least one unit of data

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associated with the screen field;

a configuration file, the configuration file to store a screen field identifier and one or more screen location identifiers associated with the screen field, wherein the configuration file is generated in advance of and prior to analysis of the screen provided within the display, wherein further the one or more screen location identifiers ~~include a screen number screen field information~~ comprising a screen name, a screen field identifier and wherein the screen field location identifiers comprise a screen number, a field row, a field column, and a field length, wherein the configuration file stores the screen field information in a format comprising:

the screen name followed by an underscore character,

the screen field identifier following the underscore character and being followed by an equal sign character,

the screen number following the equal sign character and being followed by a first colon character,

the field row following the first colon and being followed by a second colon,

the field column following the second colon and being followed by a third colon, and

the field length following the third colon.

14. (Original)   The system of claim 13, further comprising a screen field object, the screen field object corresponding to the screen field.

15. (Original)   The system of claim 13, wherein the application accesses the configuration file to generate a screen field object, the screen field object corresponding to the screen field.

16. (Original)   The system of claim 13, wherein the terminal is a dumb terminal.

17. (Original)   The system of claim 13, wherein the terminal displays data in a plurality of screen fields.

18. (Original)   The system of claim 17, wherein the terminal is a 3270-class terminal.

19-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended)   A method of accessing data via a legacy computer system, the method comprising:

a step for identifying a screen field of an application, the screen field associated with at least a unit of data contained in a screen;

a step for determining a screen field identifier and a screen field location identifier for the screen field, wherein the one or more screen location identifiers include a screen number; and

a step for storing in a configuration file prior to analyzing the screen the screen field identifier and the one or more screen field location identifiers for the screen field in association with a screen name, the screen field location identifiers comprising a screen number, a field row, a field column, and a field length, wherein the configuration file stores the screen field information in a format comprising:

the screen name followed by an underscore character,

the screen field identifier following the underscore character and being followed by an equal sign character,

the screen number following the equal sign character and being followed by a first colon character,

the field row following the first colon and being followed by a second colon,

the field column following the second colon and being followed by a third colon, and

the field length following the third colon; and

a step for obtaining the unit of data from the screen field of the screen by referencing the configuration file.

25. The method of claim 24, the method further comprising:

a step for determining that a screen field location identifier of the one or more screen field location identifiers for the screen field has changed;

a step for determining an updated screen field location identifier for the screen field; and a step for storing in the configuration file the updated screen field location identifier for the screen field.

26. (Currently Amended)   A method of accessing data via a legacy computer system, the method comprising:

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a step for accessing a screen field configuration file for a legacy computer system, the screen field configuration file storing screen field information, the screen fields configuration file existing in advance of a screen field containing screen fields corresponding to the screen field information and the screen field information -comprising a screen name, a screen field identifier and screen field location identifiers comprising a screen number, a field row, a field column, and a field length, wherein the configuration file stores the screen field information in a format comprising:

the screen name followed by an underscore character,

the screen field identifier following the underscore character and being followed by an equal sign character,

the screen number following the equal sign character and being followed by a first colon character,

the field row following the first colon and being followed by a second colon,

the field column following the second colon and being followed by a third colon, and

the field length following the third colon;

a step for identifying one or more screen fields, each identified screen field having a screen field identifier and one or more screen field location identifiers stored in the configuration file, ~~wherein the one or more screen location identifiers include a screen number~~; and

a step for creating one or more screen field objects, each screen field object corresponding to an identified screen field; and

a step for obtaining data from the screen field of the screen by referencing the screen field objects.

27-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Original)   The method of claim 26, further comprising:

a step for executing an application, the application to interface with a terminal of a legacy computer system; and

a step for accessing at least a unit of data associated with the one or more screen fields by referencing the one or more screen field objects.

30. (Currently Amended)   A system for accessing data via a legacy computer system, the

system comprising:

means for accessing a screen field configuration file for a legacy computer system, the screen field configuration file storing screen field information, and the screen field configuration file existing in advance of a screen including screen fields where data is located and the screen field information comprising a screen name, a screen field identifier and screen field location identifiers comprising a screen number, a field row, a field column, and a field length, wherein the configuration file stores the screen field information in a format comprising:

the screen name followed by an underscore character,

the screen field identifier following the underscore character and being followed by an equal sign character,

the screen number following the equal sign character and being followed by a first colon character,

the field row following the first colon and being followed by a second colon,

the field column following the second colon and being followed by a third colon, and

the field length following the third colon;

means for identifying one or more screen fields, each identified screen field having a screen field identifier and one or more screen field location identifiers stored in the configuration file, wherein the one or more screen location identifiers include a screen number;

means for creating one or more screen field objects, each screen field object corresponding to an identified screen field; and

means for accessing data from the screen fields of the screen by referencing the screen field objects.

31-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended)   A computer-readable medium storing a plurality of instructions to be executed by a processor for accessing data via a legacy computer system, the plurality of instructions including instructions to:

access a screen field configuration file for a legacy computer system, the screen field configuration file storing screen field information, the screen field configuration file existing in advance of a screen having screen fields where data is located and the screen field information comprising a screen name, a screen field identifier and screen field location identifiers comprising a screen number, a field row, a field column, and a field length, wherein the

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configuration file stores the screen field information in a format comprising:

the screen name followed by an underscore character,

the screen field identifier following the underscore character and being followed by an equal sign character,

the screen number following the equal sign character and being followed by a first colon character,

the field row following the first colon and being followed by a second colon,

the field column following the second colon and being followed by a third colon, and

the field length following the third colon;

identify one or more screen fields, each identified screen field having a screen field identifier and one or more screen field location identifiers stored in the configuration file, wherein the one or more screen location identifiers include a screen number; and

create one or more screen field objects, each screen field object corresponding to an identified screen field.

34-35. (Cancelled)